

HERNIA OF THE VERMIFORM APPENDIX;  
OPERATION ; RECOVERY.

By JOHN M. H. MARTIN, M.D., F.R.C.S.



*Reprinted from the EDINBURGH MEDICAL JOURNAL. Edinburgh and  
London, Young J. Pentland, December, 1897.*



HERNIA OF THE VERMIFORM APPENDIX:  
OPERATION; RECOVERY.

By JOHN M. H. MARTIN, M.D., F.R.C.S.

H. P. C., female, married, æt. 44, was admitted to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary on January 18, 1897. She stated that she had noticed a swelling in the right groin for the last three months. On the 15th of January the swelling became suddenly tender and painful, and much increased in size. The pain became more severe, and the bowels were not relieved although aperients were administered; she only vomited once, although sickness was more or less constant.

On admission the patient's general condition was fair; she complained of nausea and great pain in the right groin, where there was situated a tumour the size of an ordinary hen's egg, dull to percussion, with no impulse on coughing, and somewhat doughy in consistence, but quite irreducible. Her bowels had not been opened, and she had not passed flatus for five days.

On 19th January the ordinary operation for strangulated hernia was performed, and on opening the sac a small quantity of ~~the~~ fluid escaped, the only other contents being a vermiform appendix about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. long, dark brick-red, with an adherent and partially decolorised clot at its extremity. The reduction of the appendix was only effected by the notching of Gimbernat's ligament, the clot having previously been removed. The sac was turned up and cut off, the stump slightly twisted and sutured with catgut to the ring. The wound healed by first intention, and the patient has been perfectly well up to date.

*Remarks.*—The appendix had no appearance of intense inflammation or perforation, and did not contain, from the feel, any foreign body or calculus, so was returned, and the radical operation completed.

Mr. G. P. Newbolt reports a somewhat similar case,<sup>1</sup> and further cases are mentioned in Kelynack's "Pathology of the Vermiform Appendix."

<sup>1</sup> *Brit. Med. Journ.*, London, March 27, 1897.

